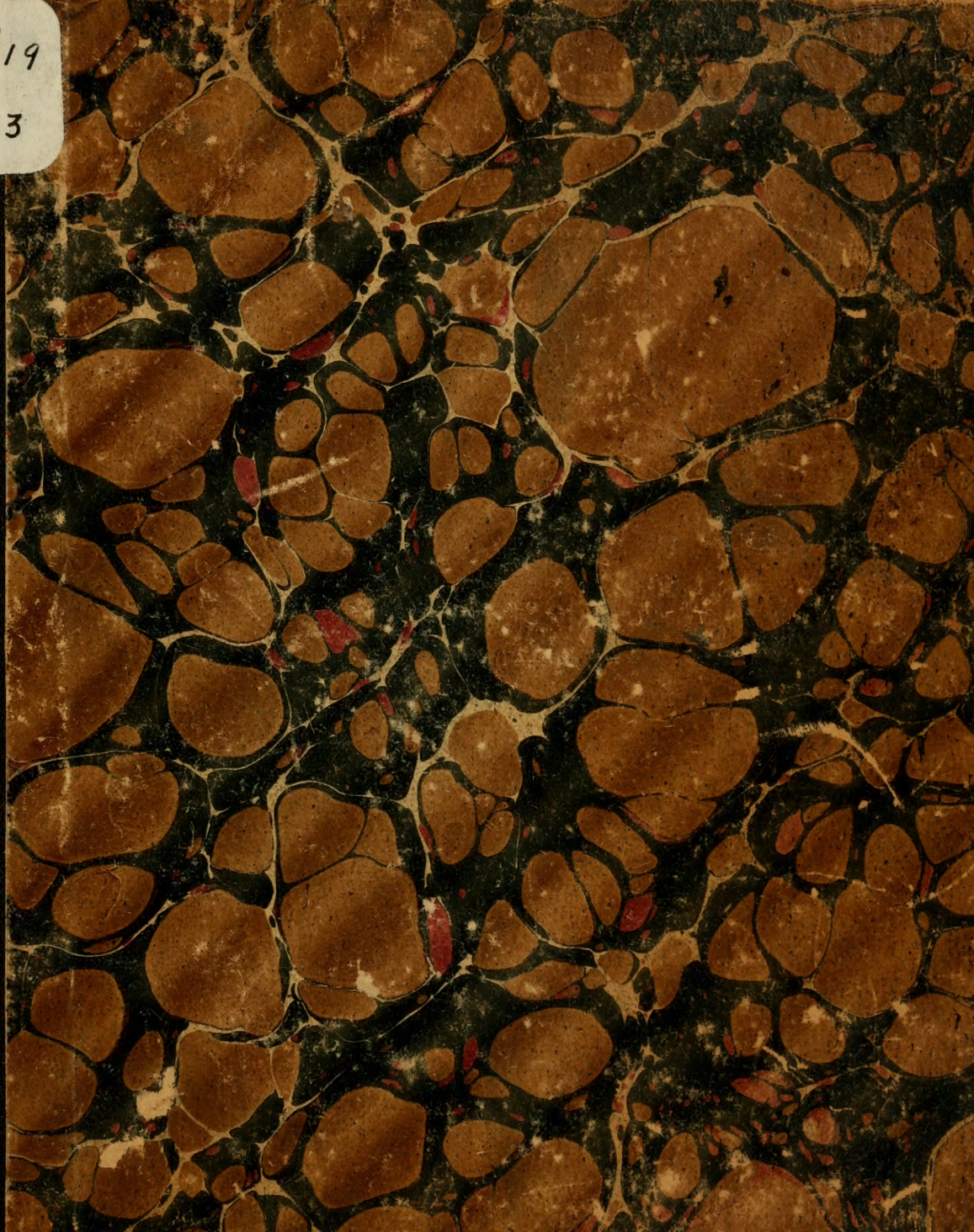


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# A CHRISTMAS MORNING

By

✓  
FRANK T. ROBINSON  
" "

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33  
ILLUSTRATED BY

LOUIS K. HARLOW.



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BOSTON, U.S.A.

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a.m.p. may 13 1929,

“The frolic architecture of the snow”

This Christmas morn around the old house piles,  
While porch and window, tree and welcome door  
Are sealed beneath the winter's frozen smiles.













White bastions fill the farmer's path and lane,  
Stark rears the sweep, which angles o'er the well.  
There bush and briar lift their withered tips  
Above the drifts, and break the pallid spell.











E'en to the gate, tapering snow-turrets rise  
O'er post-tops, cross-bars and defiant thorn;  
In silence lies the carpet spread at night,  
Revealed its wonders, on a winter's morn.











The hay-ricks, squatters of the open field,

White-hooded monks they seem, with spreading gown

They bear their burdens with an easy grace,

Repelling all encroachments with a frown.









Emerging from the crisp white tracery,  
The dam stands clear in outlines 'gainst the sky;  
Rifts, here and there, the driving snow let in,  
Which lodge, like stray birds on the rafters high.











The silent brook, a quarry now of ice,  
Is hidden 'neath fantastic drifts of snow;  
While overhead, the weighted branches hang,  
And sigh a requiem for the stream below.





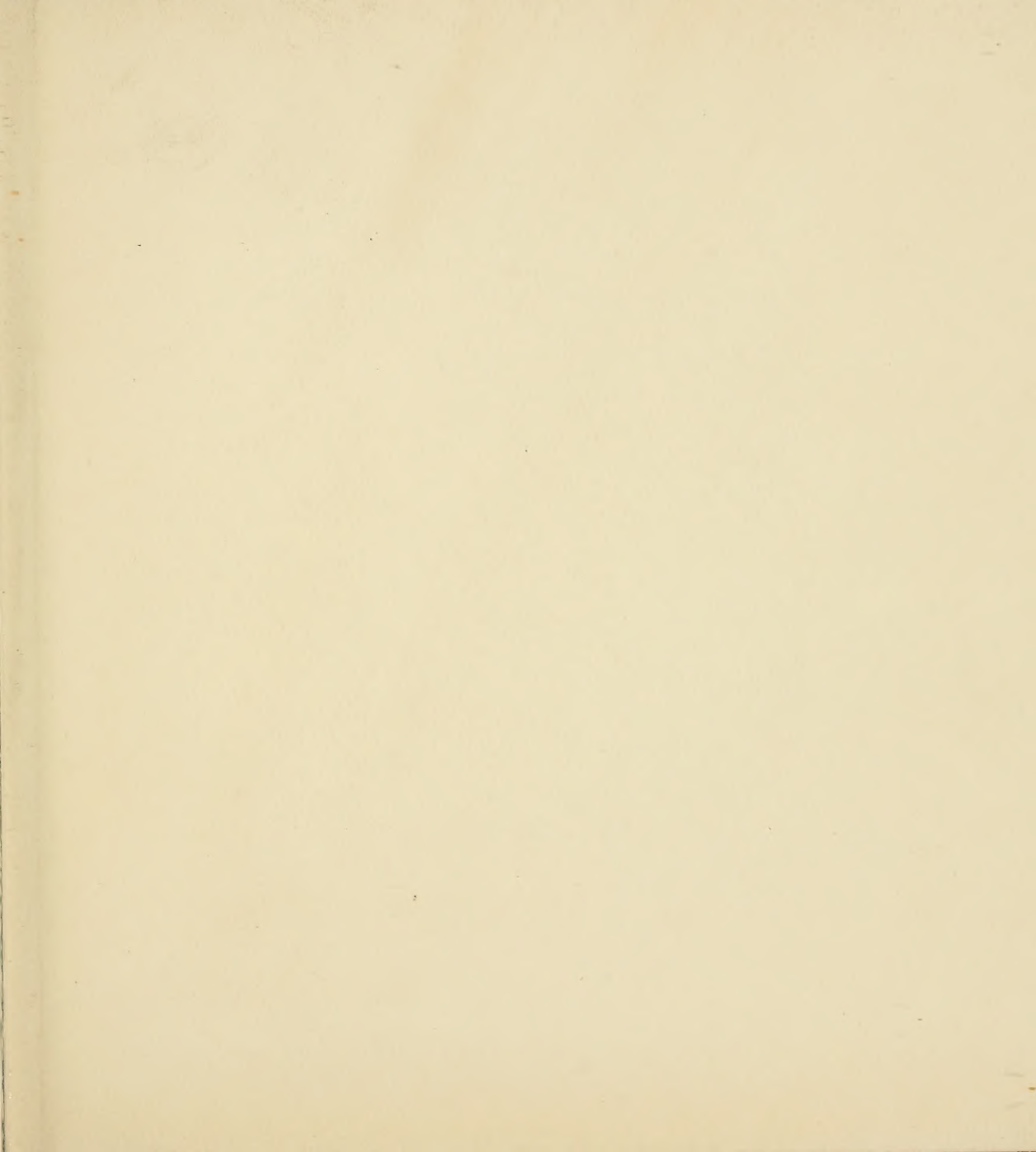












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